

S 112

A bill to amend title 38, United States Code, to strengthen benefits for children of Vietnam veterans born with spina bifida, and for other purposes.

Congress: 118 (2023–2025, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Armed Forces and National Security

Introduced: Jan 26, 2023

Current Status: Became Public Law No: 118-18.

Latest Action: Became Public Law No: 118-18. (Oct 6, 2023)

Law: 118-18 (Enacted Oct 6, 2023)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/118th-congress/senate-bill/112>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Braun, Mike [R-IN]

Party: Republican • **State:** IN • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (8 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Booker, Cory A. [D-NJ]	D · NJ		Jan 26, 2023
Sen. Hassan, Margaret Wood [D-NH]	D · NH		Jan 26, 2023
Sen. Rubio, Marco [R-FL]	R · FL		Jan 26, 2023
Sen. Hirono, Mazie K. [D-HI]	D · HI		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Scott, Rick [R-FL]	R · FL		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Warnock, Raphael G. [D-GA]	D · GA		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Young, Todd [R-IN]	R · IN		Feb 15, 2023
Sen. Cornyn, John [R-TX]	R · TX		Mar 28, 2023

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Veterans' Affairs Committee	Senate	Reported By	Jun 14, 2023

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Armed Forces and National Security

Related Bills

Bill	Relationship	Last Action
118 HR 3888	Identical bill	Jul 10, 2023: Referred to the Subcommittee on Health.

This act addresses Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) benefits and care for certain children with spina bifida or other birth defects. The act requires the VA to provide health care, job training, and monetary benefits for the duration of the child's life. The act covers a child, regardless of age or marital status, who (1) has spina bifida and is the natural child of a Vietnam veteran or a veteran of specified service in Korea or Thailand who was conceived after the date on which the veteran entered service in Vietnam, Korea, or Thailand; or (2) has certain birth defects and is the natural child of a woman Vietnam veteran.

The act requires the VA to establish an advisory council on health care and benefits for covered children. Additionally, the VA must establish care and coordination teams for covered children. At least every 180 days, the teams must conduct outreach to ensure the continued care of the children and assist with any necessary changes in care.

The VA must report to Congress a list of conditions that will trigger outreach to covered children and must attempt to contact such children as soon as practicable after the identification of a condition.

The Veterans Benefits Administration and the Veterans Health Administration must enter into a memorandum of understanding to better assist covered children.

Actions Timeline

- **Oct 6, 2023:** Signed by President.
- **Oct 6, 2023:** Became Public Law No: 118-18.
- **Oct 4, 2023:** Presented to President.
- **Sep 19, 2023:** Considered as unfinished business. (consideration: CR H4404-4405)
- **Sep 19, 2023:** Passed/agreed to in House: On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 422 - 0 (Roll no. 399). (text: 9/18/2023 CR H4361-4362)
- **Sep 19, 2023:** On motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill Agreed to by the Yeas and Nays: (2/3 required): 422 - 0 (Roll no. 399). (text: 9/18/2023 CR H4361-4362)
- **Sep 19, 2023:** Motion to reconsider laid on the table Agreed to without objection.
- **Sep 18, 2023:** Mr. Bost moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill.
- **Sep 18, 2023:** Considered under suspension of the rules. (consideration: CR H4361-4362)
- **Sep 18, 2023:** DEBATE - The House proceeded with forty minutes of debate on S. 112.
- **Sep 18, 2023:** At the conclusion of debate, the chair put the question on the motion to suspend the rules. Mr. Bost objected to the vote on the grounds that a quorum was not present. Further proceedings on the motion were postponed. The point of no quorum was considered as withdrawn.
- **Jul 18, 2023:** Message on Senate action sent to the House.
- **Jul 18, 2023:** Received in the House.
- **Jul 18, 2023:** Held at the desk.
- **Jul 13, 2023:** Passed/agreed to in Senate: Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent.(consideration: CR S2963; text: CR S2963-2964)
- **Jul 13, 2023:** Passed Senate without amendment by Unanimous Consent. (consideration: CR S2963; text: CR S2963-2964)
- **Jun 14, 2023:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Reported by Senator Tester without amendment. Without written report.
- **Jun 14, 2023:** Placed on Senate Legislative Calendar under General Orders. Calendar No. 101.
- **Feb 16, 2023:** Committee on Veterans' Affairs. Ordered to be reported without amendment favorably.
- **Jan 26, 2023:** Introduced in Senate
- **Jan 26, 2023:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs.